INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

onal Application No PCT/GB 01/01454

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
IPC 7 H04N7/24 G06F17/30 G11B27/11 G11B27/28 G11B27/031 G11B27/34 G11B27/32 According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC B. FIELDS SEARCHED Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols) IPC 7 G11B G06F HO4N Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used) EPO-Internal C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT Relevant to claim No. Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages Category ' 1,3,8,9, Υ EP 0 915 471 A (HITACHI LTD) 11, 12 May 1999 (1999-05-12) 13-16. 21,24, 27,31, 36,37 column 2, line 5 -column 3, line 22 column 5, line 11 - line 55 column 6, line 11 -column 7, line 9 column 8, line 45 -column 9, line 3 column 17, line 6 - line 52 42 - 65A Patent family members are listed in annex. Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C. Χ Special categories of cited documents: *T* later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the 'A' document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance invention "X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone earlier document but published on or after the International "L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified) *Y* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such docu-ments, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art. document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed *&" document member of the same patent family Date of the actual completion of the international search Date of malling of the international search report 25/09/2002 18 September 2002 Authorized officer Name and mailing address of the ISA European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentiaan 2 NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl, Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016 Henneman, P

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